



Docket No.: 242548US2



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

GREGORY J. MAIER  
(703) 413-3000  
GMAIER@OBLON.COM

AKIHIRO YAMAZAKI  
(703) 413-3000  
AYAMAZAKI@OBLON.COM

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/656,280

Applicants: Tatsuya NIIMI, et al.

Filing Date: September 8, 2003

For: ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, PROCESS  
CARTRIDGE FOR ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC  
APPARATUS, AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD

Group Art Unit: 1756

Examiner: DOTE, JANIS L

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**Response to Notice regarding Information Disclosure Statement**

**3 Co-pending U.S. Applications**

**Filing Receipt of December 8, 2003 (copy)**

**Information Disclosure Statement filed December 8, 2003 (copy)**

**List of Related Cases filed December 8, 2003 (copy)**

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier  
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)  
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

I:\USER\MDAVI\24S\242548\SH7 CV.RELATED.DOC

Akihiro Yamazaki  
Registration No. 46,155

DOCKET NO: 242548US2



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF

TATSUYA NIIMI, ET AL.

: EXAMINER: DOTE, JANIS L

SERIAL NO: 10/656,280

:

FILED: SEPTEMBER 8, 2003

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1756

FOR: ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC  
APPARATUS, PROCESS CARTRIDGE FOR  
ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS,  
AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE REGARDING**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

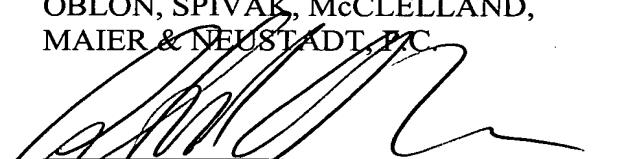
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Notice included in the Office Action dated March 9, 2006, submitted herewith is a copy of the co-pending U.S. applications listed as "Related Cases" in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed December 8, 2003, together with a copy of the date-stamped filing receipt indicating filing thereof. Applicants respectfully request that these U.S. applications be acknowledged and considered by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, PC



Gregory J. Maier  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 25,599  
Akihiro Yamazaki  
Registration No. 46,155

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)

GJM/AY/YO/mda

I:\ATTY\YO\24S\242548\RESP TO NOTICE.DOC

Docket No. 242548US2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Tatsuya NIIMI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/656,280

GAU: 2852

FILED: September 8, 2003

EXAMINER:

FOR: ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, PROCESS CARTRIDGE FOR ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

**REFERENCES**

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**RELATED CASES**

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**CERTIFICATION**

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

---

Gregory J. Maier  
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000  
Fax. (703) 413-2220  
(OSMMN 05/03)  
I:\USER\CACAS\242548US-IDS TRANSMITTAL.DOC

COPY

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

**LIST OF RELATED CASES**

<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Serial or Patent Number</u>	<u>Filing or Issue Date</u>	<u>Inventor/Applicant</u>
0557-4968-0	09/566,958	05/08/00	NIIMI et al.
237901US0	10/454,556	06/05/03	NIIMI
242167US0	10/665,155	09/22/03	TODA et al.
242548US2*	10/656,280	09/08/03	NIIMI et al.

**COPY**

\*Present Application; listed for information  
GJM/ae/akh

I:\EMEMREL\241s-242s\242548US LIST.DOC

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**